in the wonders of the capital. "Do you know," she replied, "that of all

more friends "General Sherman had in the ranks in the army than any other general who ever commanded it," remarked an ex-soldier, "and pleasant stories will forever be told of him. He was great for the reason that he was so plain in his manner and simple in his tastes. Though a West Pointer he seemed to have left all the bad points of that military school at the school instead of carrying them around with him to his disadvantage. I remember one occasion when his greatness shone out in great brilliancy. It was at the marriage of General Barry's daughter at Fort Monroe. Though I was but a soldier I was invited to the marriage, and with another soldier who was also invited was present. During the evening a lieutenant who felt his importance made some complaint at the presence of two enlisted men at the wedding reception. Some of his associates gave us a very cold draft and seemed to think that our presence there was a fearful social mistake. "Before much of the evening had passed

we began to think so ourselves, and we were about to leave when General Sher-man came around and spoke pleasantly to us. He asked us if we were enjoying our-selves, and we told him frankly that we were not, and spoke of the fact that the lieutenant felt so bad because we were present. 'Come over to the punch bowl.' General Sherman said, and we will drink to the health of the bride. We did so, and after the punch had disappeared General Sherman remarked rather loudly: 'Remem ber, young men, that though Lieutenant
— objects to the presence of enlisted men, the general of the army does not. After that the temperature warmed up a After that the temperature warmed up a little, as far as we were concerned, and we stayed the reception out."

"The foot ball player," said a professor in a local college, "has improved considerably this season. I saw several of the contests in Connecticut and Massachusetts last week, in which Harvard, Yale and Princeton men took part. I do not mean that there is much improvement in the way they play, for they follow the plans of other years. The improvement is in the manner they wear their hair. Of course, their hair is as long as in previous years, but they have it combed out and smoothed down.

"There was a time when the foot ball player endeavored to fix up his hair so that he would look as idiotic as possible. The players in the smaller colleges throughout the country even went further than did the players in the large and leading col-leges, and the result was that the ordinary foot ball players, that is, a college team, looked rather rough to say the least so looked rather rough, to say the least, so far as their heads were concerned. This is all changed now, and foot ball players this season have even gone so far as to have their nair dressed in the barber shops just tefore the game. My own idea is that the change in the style will be a very agreeable

* * * * *
"One of the unusual things in the shoe business this season," said a dealed, "is the frequent calls that have been made so far for men's boots. There was a time when a dealer laid in even a larger stock of boots, for the fall and winter, than he dld of shoes. Fifteen or twenty years ago the styles, or at least the demand, changed, and of late years it has been very rare to have any one call for boots, and even rares to sell a pair. As far as I am concerned I have not attempted to carry any stock of boots for over fifteen years. I know some who never wear shoes in the win-ter, but they have their boots made to

"I am sure the manufacturers did not anticipate any demand for boots, for they made no effort whatever to supply it. I thought that this sudden desire for boots was entirely local, but a Baltimore dealer told me a few days since that he was having a similar experience. There was no very good reason why boots should have been shelved, but as they did get shelved, there certainly is no good reason, at least I am not aware of any, why they should be in demand again. Shoes are much easier to handle, cost less and for all practical purposes afford all the protection to their wearers that boots do."

"I made a tour of Africa last season," said Mr. John Robinson, a comedian, "but was glad enough to get home alive. There are a number of good show towns and cities in Africa, and there is an opera company carrying over sixty people, which has been playing there constantly for over three years, spending from one to five weeks in the larger cities. All countries are represented in the population about the gold mines there except America. In the show business there is a feature I had never seen before, though I have been a world roamer, and that is that one night is set apart in each week for servants, when the admission is reduced one-half. On these nights all servants attend and others as religiously keep away.

"For first-class companies the admission

is from two dollars and fifty cents to four dollars of our money. While the company dollars of our money. While the company of which I was a member was in Africa, we were surprised to hear that an American man-of-war would soon put in an appearance. It came, and after cheering its flag, which was a pleasant sight to us, we saw it was the Lancaster, one of the old wooden ships of the past. When we asked why one of the new iron battle ships did not come the admiral said that he was suffering very much from rheumatism, and dai not come the admiral said that he was suffering very much from rheumatism, and that iron ships were much damper than wooden ships, so much so that he could not ride in an iron ship. This was a new one on us, but the admiral was very serious about it."

The Messieurs Pyramus and the Demoiselles Thisbe of modern times do not, as of old, keep their tryst near convenient chinks in friendly walls, but, according to reports of last summer's "Cupid-a-Wheel," in grateful well houses and near refreshing woodland springs.

There is, of course, always the danger of the intruding lion, and in one case of current gossip the lion happened to be in possession, in the person of the owner of the well house, who knew the couple intimately well house, who knew the couple intimitely in the city, but whose country home was unknown to the wheelers. This "roaring dove" relates that hearing the descending rattle of his well chain one day last summer he naturally peeped from the window to see who was there. His well house had been invaded by two evelers of the conceits. been invaded by two cyclers of the opposite sexes, and at the time of discovery both were busy hauling up the old oaken bucket and apparently seizing the opportunity to do as much hand-holding as the occasion afforded. After the dripping pall had been nicely balanced upon the brim, the following pantomime was enacted by players all unconscious that well-known eyes were spying upon them, and that they were not far removed from the haunts of their in-

First she must take a drink of "Adam's ale" while he held the cup, and she drank very slowly, with coquettish glances over the top and sundry dimpling intermissions. Then, the exact spot of her imbibling being noted, her cavalier took a draught. This was followed by a careful laving of hands. in which each served the other tenderly to the latest improved methods of washing one another's hands and drying them with soft, slow, Delsarte pressures. What more natural than after another draught of the intoxicating fluid, the fair one's fac be taken tenderly, but firmly, between two brown palms and the rosy lips, yet dewy from nature's spring, be treated to a re-sounding smack, which was distinctly heard by the callous onlooker from the

This wayside idyl completed, with dignified mich they strolled from the vine-covered shelter, mounted their wheels and rode away, and not until sundry allusions to the kissing well and requests for di-

rection thereto had made their life a burden did they know that this little episode had taken place at the country home of a mutual friend and had forced a prema-

ture announcement of their engagement.

* * * * *

A recent visitor to Washington was asked the other day what had surprised her most

the beautiful sights and instructive pleasures I have enjoyed here nothing has impressed me so much as the way books are procured up at the Congressional Library. An applicant for literature came into the library the other day when I was up there, and, in this age of electricity and light for all, what did the librarian do but take a smoky, dejected-looking little coal oil lamp, such as are seen in the most dilapidated roadside cabins, light it and disappear into thicket of precious volumes, peering hither and thither by the light of this soil tary flame. It is a wonder to me that there is any library at all, or even a half-dozen volumes to transport to the beautiful new building waiting for them across the way."

* * * * *
"There are some things heard and seen on the Norfolk line of steamers," volunteered an old river man, "equal to any on shore. One that happened a few nights ago was very good in its way, and was very much enjoyed. Among the passengers on our steamer was a newly married couple, who had spent several days in this city enjoying the sights of the capital. They made all kinds of efforts during the early evening to convince their fellow passengers that they were not new to each other, with the usual result-exposing to every one that they had just been married and were on their honeymoon tour. The young lady played the piano very nicely and spent much of the evening at that amusement. She was rather deaf, though she, like a great many other deaf persons, tried hard o corceal it.

"The groom, however, was used to he deficiency in this regard and spoke very loud. Finally they retired to their state room and prepared to go to bed. They were rather slow about it, the groom bawling away at the top of his voice, seeming to forget that others wanted to sleep even if they did not. He was enthusiastically in love with his bride, and he was loud in his complishments and perfections. First he praised her playing on the plano, remark-ing lovingly that she had never played sweeter than she had on the steamer that evening. He also told her that the other passengers were highly pleased at her fine ried on in a loud voice, for it appears unless he did speak loud the bride did not hear a

"Though the storm of several weeks ago did great harm to the wishing tree," said a habitue of Lafayette Square, "tearing away its principal limbs and completely changing its appearance, the wishing tree still stands and has its devotes in even larger numbers than ever before. Only a few days ago, I saw four colored nurse girls standing under it, wishing as hard as they could to all appearances. I afterward heard one of the girls say that though she had never got her wishes in full she had some portions of them. She said the nearest she had ever struck was when she wished for a bicycle. She did not get a bicycle, but found a nice bicycle lamp on the streets in less than a half hour afterward. A very funny thing happened at the tree during the recent convention of the Union Veteran Union.
"It was explained to some of the vet

erans about the tree, and a party of gathered in a circle under it and indulged in a combination wish that—several of them were farmers—wheat would go up to \$1 a bushel. It was but 60 cents then and is nov7 up to 89."

* * * * *
"Sterling Heilig's article in The Star on Saturday last on 'Tipping' in Europe," said "reminds me of my experience in that connection. Though I have been abroad several times, and have experienced tipping in a rather aggravating form, I had no idea that the fellows there would so persistently follow up a traveler. I have stopped at a great many hotels in the various cities of Europe and never got away from any of them, except on one occasion, without paying tribute in the shape of tips in addition to paying all the other expenses.
"While I was in Paris I had arranged to

leave the hotel about 5 o'clock in the after-noon for Versailles, and so informed the clerk of the hotel, who, as is their custom, so informed the hotel maids, waiters, etc. It happened, however, that I met some friends, and so as to have their company left Paris at noon. Though I did not so intend it I thus got away from the hotel without paying any tips on my departure. My experience was so novel that I told it to a number of friends, and especially to those on the steamer while coming over. on my return to this country. It was generally agreed that my experience was very unusual. I found out, however, after ward that I was mistaken about it, fo some weeks after my return to Washing ton I saw standing in front of my resi-dence the very hotel waiter to whom I was indebted to the extent of a tip. He rang my door bell and after many profuse apologies said that he had taken the liberty to call on me and desired my assist-ance, if I would be so obliging, and all that

kind of thing, to aid him in securing a place as a waiter in this city.

"I did so, but he worked here but a very short time. On the occasion of his call on me he reminded me that he was rather short financially, and I helped him out, though in a small way. On my visit to the same hotel in Paris the past summer I asked about that waiter, and was in-formed that he was then in Paris, but not at the same hotel. From another waiter I learned that the real reason for his trip over to this country and his call on me was to get his tip. It is the pride of a Paris waiter to let no one escape from the tip, and he proudly told his confreres how he had managed to keep the record from being broken."

Stories of servants who rule a household with iron hand are common, but a late resident of Northeast Washington acknowledged that he regulates his domestic affairs with a view to the accommodation of his favorite dog, a very intelligent collie. So far did he carry out this plan that when the neighborhood became rather warm for the dog as a result of a canine disposition to bark before people are out of bed, he forthwith moved out of town and is now happily located in the suburbs, where his pet makes noise without fear of conse-quences. The individual who was disturbed 'nuisance" continued, and rather than risk the pct's life its owner readily agreed to move beyond the city's limits.



cycling and is very enthusiastic about it!"
Cyclist—"Enthusiastic! Not a bit of it.
Why, he never rides before breakfast!"
—London Punch.

AIDED BY THE JAILER. So the Prisoner Had a Chance to Run

to Escape Lynching. Some newspaper men were talking about lynchings. All of them had some interesting story to tell. "I have seen a good many of these affairs," said a Star reporter, "but I saw

one man who thought he was going to be lynched, and my idea is that he hasn't stopped running yet. It was in a Mississippi town. He was a white man, who was going around organizing secret societies among the negroes. He had been at work for several months.- He was not only prejudicing the negroes against their white friends and neighbors, but he was defraud ng the negroes out of all their money. "I was a reporter on a small daily paper, and one night found where he was going to hold a meeting. I blacked my face and put on clothing to make it appear that I was colored. I walked up behind several of the members, saw how to get in and heard the pass word. I walked right in, listened to what was said, and wrote a story for my paper. The story incensed the white citizens, and they had Hoover— that was his name—arrested on a charge of vagrancy.

The first night he was in jail one of the allkeepers told him a party was organizing to lynch him, but that they would protect him with their lives. Hoover was fright ened to death, as he knew the fashion of lynching was somewhat too frequent to be pleasant. He believed all the jailkeeper aid and began to make preparations for

"He prayed and sang and awaited the hour. The jalikeeper professed to be touched, and told him he had decided to save Hoover escape before the lynchers arrived. Hoover blessed him as his savior. The man was released and started on a run so soon as he got outside the jail door. He was never heard of again, and it is sup-posed that he is still running. All the authorities desired was to get rid of him in the community."

QUICK PROFITS.

A Boy's Improvement on the Usual Program in Fairy Stories.

"Business" is the watchword of the day, and the small boy is developing on that line with a rapidity which astonishes the previous generation. But the practical side of his nature has not obscured the poetry of childhood. The fairy tale is as potent as ever, and there was a smile of pleasure on the face of the lad who remarked at break "I had a beautiful dream last night."

"What was it?" his father asked. "I thought I was out in the woods and saw a most gorgeously dressed lady coming

"That is a good deal like some of the stories that you have been reading.' "Yes. It doesn't get very different until the end. I knew by her looks that she was the fairy queen, and I made up my mind that I wasn't going to lose chances like some of the boys in story books, who didn't know a good chance when they saw it."
"Did she offer you three wishes?"
"Yes. And I called to mind how

scmetimes took advantage of a mortal's being excited and nervous when he wished, in order to make him waste his opportuni-ties and have a good laugh at him. So, when she said 'Little boy,I'll give you three wishes,' I didn't jump at the chance. I said, 'Will you give me whatever I ask for?' She answered, 'Yes; you may have

"What did you do?" "I wished for four."

SATISFACTORY TO HIM. An Argument Terminated Without

the Defeat of Either Side: The young man who always wears a Prince Albert coat and never seems to enjoy himself, was talking to a bright young woman of this city. The bicycle was the theme of conversation.

"No," said the young man; "I do not approve of women's learning to ride the wheel." "I don't see why."

"Because it's just a passing whim. It's as other crazes have done. And then what have you gained by all this expenditure of time and money?" "But, I don't see, Mr. Slimmins, what reason you can have for regarding the bi-

cycle as a mere fad."
"My reason is the disfavor toward it that is already appearing. Where everybody was once talking about its being good exercise, people are coming out and denoun-cing it. Bicycles are being more abused every day. Don't you agree with me?"
"Of course I shouldn't think of quarreling with you, Mr. Slimmins, and I will admit one thing."

"What is that?" "There never was a time when blcycles were sat down upon by so many people."

And the young man in the Prince Albert coat smiled a self-satisfied smile, and said that was exactly the point he was trying to

THEY BOTH GOT MAD.

A Mountaineer Visits a Post Office and His Experience There. He was a typical mountaineer from his progan shoes to his wool hat, and he had walked to a neighboring town to visit relatives. It was his first visit away from his home. The second day after he arrived he

went to the post office to get a letter from his girl. He was sure it would be there, as she had tearfully told him she would write him while he was away. "Air thar any mail fer me?" he inquired of the postmaster.

"What's your name?" was the inquiry. "Louder." "I say, what's your name?" asked the postmaster, in a little more positive man-

'Louder." "I say, what's your name?" yelled the postmaster, sticking his head through the window into the face of the young man. "Why, dad drat your ugly time, I've told yer three times my name was Louder," yelled the mountaineer; "T. J. Louder, and if yer didn't belong to ther gov'ment, I'd crawl over thar and pick your years. Soon es a man gits er gov'ment job 'round here he begins to put on airs, and I'm not one to put up with it." The postmaster fished out a letter from a musty hole and gave it to him, although he was mad himself.

Early Morning Riding. The fall time is the season for the cyclist's delight, says a well-known cycling

"There are several rules to follow if the

rider wishes to thoroughly enjoy the jour-

neys. The men and boys who are employed in the workshops will find it an excellent plan to follow the advice given in this article. Five o'clock is the right hour for the alarm clock to sound its warning, and no time is to be lost, for no warning, and no time is to be lost, for no wheelman should start off on a trip, be it ever so short, without some food to act as a stimulant till breakfast time. A bowl of bread and milk serves as an excellent of bread and milk serves as an excellent repast, and it will provide nourishment for several hours. A half hour after rising the rider should be able to silently slide his wheel from the woodshed and make for the country side. The green hills are rapidly taking on a brownish tint. The frost is on the ground and a chill is in the air. To prevent cold a thick sweater should be used, but as as the sun comes up this may be discarded and strapped to the handle bars. comes up this may be discarded and strapped to the handle bars.

"Over the smooth highways the riders may dash with all the vigor these fine autumn mornings give. They will find it no task whatever to cover ten miles and reach home again by 6 o'clock, which

gives time for breakfast and a chance to reach the factory when the whistle blows. There is no tonic like cycle riding, and cycle riding cannot be enjoyed as it is in the fall." Couldn't Be Done.

From the Chicago Post. The orator was anxious for an honest opinon as to his speech. "To be frank with you," said the friend to whom it had been submitted, "I think it is too long. Now, if you had cut the nor sense out of it-"
"Cut the nonsense out of it!" roared the orator excitedly. "Impossible."

"But why?"
"Why? Why? Hang it all, it's a free silver speech, and what do you suppose would be left?"

STARTING | CHINESE LAUN-DRIES.

"In some respects the much abused Chiraman," said Hong Sing Long, one of the interpreters and general agents of the Chinese Six Companies, to a Star reporter, "are way in advance of the ordinary working man, and particularly so in regard to their Ready Money Associa-

Hong Sing Long spends most of his time

in New York, though he visits Washington several times each year. He is an educated Chinaman and has had the advantage of several years at Harvard and be sides has been graduated as a lawyer. "With the exception of one, all of the Chinese laundry places in this city are the chinese faundry places in this city are result of the Ready Money Associations; that is, the money necessary to start them came from the Ready Money. The plan is not unlike the building associations, which I am told have quite a clientele here, and which were originally started in Philadel phia. The Chinese plan is to start Ready Moneys as often as a party of Chines they have any surplus money on hand, the idea being to keep the money moving along. Our experience is like that of all others that the more free the circulation the better for all concerned. It is the cus tom of the laundry boys, for Chinamer always speak of each other as boys, to gather about on Mondays, that being their off day, and gossip. All who have spare put it in a pool and authorize som money a bank. As soon as the pool gets any size the word goes out and it is sold to the largest bidder, if there is more than one applicant for it. As a general thing there is but one ap

plicant and he gets it, at a rate of interest agreed upon. It starts him in business and in a few weeks he begins paying back. Now and then there is no demand for the money. It then goes to the cities where it is needed. Just now the Chinamen are starting laundries in a number of small towns of the south, and my errand here now is to get some of the Ready Money funds to be advanced for that purpose.
"Is it safe? what guarantees are there that the money will be paid back? Yes these are the urgent questions. Safe? Perfectly safe. The civilization of the Chines is no new thing. It is five thousand years old. They have found out that honesty is the best policy; not on account of the mor-al or religious question involved as you understand it, but on account of the business proposition involved. Honesty is bes it pays, as for many other rea-

sons. In business dealings Chinese are very strict, much more strict than any other people. "The Chinaman knows that if he borrows he must pay back; and that the sequences of not doing so are very serious much more serious than it is with Americans or Europeans. He knows this before h gets the money and does not take it unless he means to pay back. The man who acts as secretary of the Ready Money is also the secretary of the Ready Money is also the treasurer. He takes pretty good care to give a good account of his stewardship, for his happiness depends upon his conduct. The Chinese Ready Moneys frequently close up in a week, though ordinarily they last longer. Each transaction is a separate one. A man may be a member of a dozen or have all of his money in one.

"The great admitting of the Ready Money."

"The great advantage of the Ready Money is that it gives every one who wants it money to open up business for himself whenever he sees the opportunity. There is no waiting no security is needed except a promise to pay. The payment never fails except for good reasons, such as accident or sickness. In fact, it does not pay to fai to pay, for it will cost more in the long run. When your civilization is five thousand years cld, you will know more than you do now, and will understand things that now seem to be wonderful in us."

What Worried Him. "Are you worried any over the 16 to question?" askes an F street real estate dealer of a \$1,600 clerk in the Post Office

Department.
"Not so much about that as I am over the sixteen hundred to nothing that will follow if Byan is elected," was the response. Midt.

When Two Friends Quarrel, the Third Person is Generally Benefited. afcot at the present time."









GREATER THAN DUTY.

An English Subject Presents His Case to an American Citisen. One of those soft evenings of two or three weeks ago a Star reporter and a friend of dictionary for some time. his had sat down for a few minutes in Far-"Can't you find the word you want?" his

ragut Square to pull quietly at their cigars, wife inquired. it being about that time in the gloaming when to pull a cigar is most pleasant and permeating to the human system. As they sat enjoying the fact that they were able to do what they were doing, they were approached by a person who wasn't able to "I beg your pardon, sir," he said, in

plain English accent, to the reporter, "can you render me a bit of assistance?" "A drink, I suppose?" queried the re-

"Yes; if there's enough after a bite to eat, sir. I like a drink quite as well as most men, sir, and am willing to make a sacrifice to get it, but there are times when a man must eat, sir, in order to keep alive so he can be able to drink." "I hadn't thought of it that way," laughed the reporter, "but I see the force of it, and I would suggest that as you are on the

way, you might as well go on up to the British embassy and get a bite there. I understand they live well there." understand they live well there."

"Bo I've heard, sir," replied the Englishman, "and that's where I'm going, but it occurred to me, sir, that it was my duty to go there, as it was the duty of the people there to feed me when I arrived, and, sir, England expects every man to do her duty. But you are an American, sir, that England hase't a right to expect anything from, and if you helped me a bit, sir, you see it would be so much more to your credit, sir."

It was a skillful bluff, and it won, as it

BUILT BY A BOY.

Exact Model of a Locomotive Displayed at the World's Fair. Wonderful as is the great engine "999" which pulls the Empire State Express, a boy has just completed a model of it which

practical engineers say is in some respects more of a marvel than the real engine. The model is one-twentieth the size of the original, and is such an exact reproduction and works so perfectly as to astonish all who see it. Struck by the mechanical beauties of the

monster engine while at the world's fair, Willis Brown, a young mechanic of Waltham, Mass., has devoted no less than one hundred working days to reproducing it in The model contains over one thousand

pieces, all of which young Brown made himself. The dimensions are: Length, 174 inches, height, 4½ inches; drivers, 2 inches in diameter; cylinders, 3-8 by 1-2 inch. The outside diameter of the boiler is 7½ inches, and it holds about half a tumblerful of water. The fire-box is held by sixty-four nuts around the base and twelve stay bolts on each side.

In place of grates and ash pan a branbox is placed under the fire-box so that alcohol can be run in from the tender and the surface set on fire. It will burn for about ten minutes without being replen-ished. A steam pressure of ninety pounds has been borne by the boiler without in-

The model exactly follows the drawings from which the original was constructed, and is said to be a perfect reproduction.

A MAD WAGER. Two Campaign Sports Who Startled

the Community. "How is the election going?" asked a Star reporter of one of the oldest inhabitants

of a rural community. "I d'no," was the reply. "This is the fust time I didn't feel able ter venture a guess. But I can't resk my reppytation ez far-seein' man by givin' out no opinions.' "But I understand that some of the men here are so positive that they've bet on the election." "Thet's whut makes me so skittish. I

never see anything like the doin's thet are "Some of the bets made are very unusual, I understand." me of 'em is the foolishest I ever

heard on.' "One man, they tell me, has agreed to g) for one year with one side of his whis-kers shaved off if Bryan is elected." weth him says that of he loses he'll ride a calf ter town every mornin' fur a week."
"I suppose several wagers have been
rade by which the losers wheel the win-"Yes. That's been done, too. An' Jud Swinker, he made a bet wet Si Larkins, weth the onderstandin' thet the loser is ter quit courtin' the gal they're both in love weth. There don't seem ter be no limit ter the outlandish things they kin think up. But the mos' durndest foolishest bet was made by Jay Simpson an' Elihu Geehaw "Have they managed to eclipse the

"Put 'em clean in the shade. The hull county is talkin' 'bout it. Why, sir, them fellers ackchilly got together an' bet re'l

HE WAS WAITING. A Number of "Issues" Were Mention-

ed, but Not the Right One. The colored man had been sitting for half an hour or more on a chair with three legs, rubbing his knee while he listened to the campaign missionary. The latter, failing to elicit any response to his persuasions, left him to seek a more promising subject. "Is business lively in this part of the country?" inquired a Star reporter who was waiting for a train.

"Not ve'y," was the answer. "Dey doan' seem ter be tryin' ter sell much o' anything jes' now, 'ceppin' votes an' bicycles." "I suppose the politicians are quite active. "Yassir; de gemman dat wus talkin' ter

me jes' now wus one o' dem. He done hab er pow'ful lot er big words." 'Couldn't you grasp his meaning?" "Wal, suh, I could foller de soun' ef I ouldn' allus ketch de exac' sense. He done talk sumpin' 'bout anarchism and den he tu'ned 'is remarks ter socialism.' "Those are rather profound topics for you

o consider."
"I didn' let 'em worry me none. I jes' 'lowed 'im ter go on. I know what I wants an' I's min'in' my own affa'hs." "Didn't he mention anything else?"
"I b'lieve he said sumpin' 'bout populism
an' Bryanism an' McKinleyism." "And you didn't give him any encourage-

"No, suh. I didn' stop 'im. I jes' let 'im keep on talkin' in de hope dat he'd hab somet'ing ter say 'bout rheumatism. Dat's le subjek he sho'ly would of wahmed me up on.

The Tiresome Run. "The human body," said the doctor,

throwing a wise look across the dinner table at the superintendent, "with proper nourishment and proper exercise, can stand great heat and great cold. Now, I presume you haven't any idea of the extremesheat and cold---" "Oh, yes," interrupted the superintendent; "my Washington experience teaches

and oysters. And, speaking of heat and cold," he continued, glancing at the bright coal fire in the grate, "isn't it a little singular that the fireplace grate is cold if it is not coaled, and hot when it is coaled? Now, it can't be hot and cold at the same time, although it may be coaled and hot, yet it is generally cold when not coaled. I presume you catch my meaning-But the young doctor had caught up his hat, and was trying to catch a cable car.

me that the two extremes are ice cream

The Important Issue. "What d'ye know about this here ray-

tyo?" asked the farmer, breaking into the corner grocery discussion, where a Star reporter was one of the listeners. "You want some points about the ray show?" asked the village justice, "I've got some ideas on that myself." "The ray-she-o is the most important feature of the contest," remarked the

"I'll be satisfied with any rah-she-o up to 20 to 1," said the doctor. "If it is the rash-o you are talking about," said the new schoolmaster from Boston, "I think I can enlighten you. By rash-o w mean—"
But at this juncture the cat treed a rat in

the flour barrel and cut off debate.

AN OLD EXPERIMENT.

The Influence of a Christening Must Have Its Limits. Mr. Twittles had been poring over the

"I don't want any word," he answered "The trouble with half the people nowadays is that they have more words than they know what to do with. They start out to tell you something and they get it so tangled up in a luxuriant vocabulary that it takes hours to tell what ought to be said in ten minutes. I don't want any more words. I was just seeking diver-

"That's a rather unusual way of amus-

ing yourself."
"That's no sign it isn't a good way. It's
"That's no sign it isn't a good way. "That's no sign it isn't a good way. It's a solemn fact that people will despise a chance to have a good time when it's right before them and go hunting around for what doesn't amount to anything after they've secured it. When I feel the need of diversion I pick up one of the books that contains facts in the briefest form. I can get more enjoyment out of the back that contains facts in the briefest form. I can get more enjoyment out of the back of the dictionary than I can out of a novel. I thought I would get away from politics for awhile. But there's no use of trying to do that. It showes itself to the front, even in the dictionary."

"I don't see how that can be. What part were you reading?"

"The part that tells the meaning of Christian names. It has set me to thisking about the way destiny steps in and interferes with our plans. I think I've found out what makes Junkers so kind of cynical and morose. He was married

cynical and morose. He was married three times and had eight children. I looked up the meanings of their names, as I've no doubt he did before the christen-

as I've no doubt he did before the christen-ing. His first child was named 'Alger-non.' That means 'with whiskers!' Al-gernon is verging on old age, and he hasn't any more beard than a china egg. The next was a girl."
"Yes, that's Vivien. She was the slow

"Do you know what Vivian means?" he inquired, referring to the dictionary. "That means lively." Then there was Evangeline, whose name means bringing glad news."

"I never saw such a person as she is for going around and telling things that she knows will make trouble!" his wife exclaimed.

"Then there was Alvin. 'Alvin' means beloved by all."
"T've seen a whole street full of children around the corner. He's very different from his brother Waiter. He's the most amiable man I ever knew in some ways. What does 'Waiter' mean?'

"That means 'a ruler of hosts."

"It's a pity the way his wife makes him stand around." "Yes. His wife is named Winid Wini-

ed. That means 'A lover of peace."
"There was one son named Charles." "Yes. Here it is: 'Charles strong; man-ly: noble-spirited.' He was so bashful he'd forget what his own name was if you asked him real quick. And Felix (trans lated happy; prosperous) was so unlucky that one time when a flood threatened they gave him his own odds to bet that there'd gave him his own odds to bet that there'd be another shower. It cleared up inside of two hours. And there's George. That's Greek for 'land-holder or husbandman.' Ever since George was sixteen years old he has traveled with a circus."

"Still," his wife said pensively, "I don't see what you mean when you say that this kind of reading doesn't take your mind off politics. It seems to me that there couldn't very well be anything more remote."

"That's because you haven't been follow-

"That's because you haven't been follow-ing the same train of thought that I have. All these examples fillustrate a truth in political economy, as well as in domestic economy. You can name the baby whateconomy. You can name the baby whatever you choose, but you haven't the slightest assurance that it'll live up to the title. It's your privilege, with the proper formalities, to give it any designation that suits your faney, but that designation doesn't make any difference in the long run. And the same way, it may be possible to take fifty cents and call it a dollar. There's nothing to prevent a government's deciding to give it that appellation if the highest powers agree to it. But its nature will be 50 cents, just the same."

A PHILOSOPHIC EXTERPRISE.

A Man Who Believed in Yieldin The hardware dealer came up to attend

to a serene looking old gentleman, who had been drawing something with a lead pencil on the wrapping paper on the counter. "There," the customer said, holding un the results of his efforts, "you see that drawing?" "You mean that circle?"

"It's a circle as nearly as I could approximate it without instruments. I wish to submit that as the plans and specifications for an augur. I desire to purchase tool that wil: bore a hole just that size." "You want it for a very exact piece of work."

"Yes, sir."
The dealer sold him the augur, and then remarked: "If you are a builder I'd like to show you some new goods we've got in in the way of carpenters' tools."
"It wouldn't te of the slightest use. This will be my debut as an artisan. If I weren't a humane and sympathetic person I wouldn't begin at this late day in life, but I know just what I want done and I wen't trust it to a hired man. Every night for the past three weeks I have heard

"Mice?" "It must be mice. Now these animals have their communities and thoroughfares

gnawings around the wood work in my

sleeping room.

just the same as people have."
"You ought to set traps for them." "It wouldn't do any good. As soon as you catch one others will come. A certain area of available territory is in the economy of nature expected to support a cer-tain number of mice, and there's no use in trying to depopulate it. The best thing to do is to arrange it so they will make as little disturbance as possible. I am even-tempered, but I confess that the gnawing annoys me. But it's evidently occasioned by some plans for street extension that they have decided to carry out, and there is no use in delaying the undertaking by interfering with them. So I have located the spots where they are operating and taken the measure of a hole that they have already gnawed. Now, I'm going to take this augur and bore holes wherever they're needed, thereby greatly facilitating their endeavors, and securing to myself their endeavors, and securing to myself several hours of much needed sleep every

Circularly Speaking. From the Chicago Record.

"You remember Kadgers gave a beautiful solitaire diamond to Miss Thinlips when they became engaged?" "Well?"

"Well, that was one ring. When they were married they made their wedding trip on a tandem. That was touring. Now they are settled down and she's a vixen. And they have a three-ring circus every day."



Mrs. Veneer (apologetically)—"Y-e-e-but the frame is new!"—London Punch.

DAMAGES WANTED

Remarkable Grievance and a Liberal Reduction for Cash. The subordinate railway official had been talking to a Star reporter about the hardhess of the times. He had just delivered a

few remarks on the schemes people with resert to to get something for nothing, when a man with a hasty manner same in. "I suppose," he said, without introducing

himself, "that it's customery for a fellway to pay damages when it kills livestock." "It is, if you can make the railway de it," was the unencouraging response. "Well, I have a case that I think is all

right. I came directly here with it because I'm a good-natured man, and I want to spare the president and board of directors of this company the humiliation of being dragged into court."
"You're very considerate. What is pour

"I don't expect to get paid for all my griev money cannot pay. But I want justice."

He pulled from his overcoat pocket the stuffed skin of an unusually large black snake. Wiping his eyes with a red hand-kerchief, he pointed to the snake with his

kerchief, he pointed to the snake with his outstretched palm and said:

'There is all that remains of the pet of the household and the pride of the neighborhood. I took him to the taxidermist's as soon as I could, for, this being that was one of the gentlest and cheerfulest of creatures, is nothing now but evidence. Do you see that limp place in the middle of him?"

"Yes. It looks as if the taxidermist hasn't made a very good job."

"You're mistaken. That shows his art. I told him to preserve that place with the utmost care. That's where one of your trains ruthlessly ran over him at the rais of twenty miles an hour and extinguished the vital spark."

the vital spark." "What do you want us to do; send out a section hand to catch you another Mack

"Do you imagine for an instant that ar

snake?"

"Do you imagine for an instant that another covid take the place of this? Best, of course, you don't know anything about his value. Two thousand dollars is the only basis upon which I would think of a sympromise. If I take the thing into court I'll sue for ten thousand. I'll explain the circumstances to you. This make was accessioned to run at large over my villa."

"You have a villa?"

"That is to say,my country home. We have a great many guests every summer, who enjoy swinging in a hammock. If that snake had received all the life-saving medals he was entitled to he'd have sounded like a string of sleigh-bells every time he elimited a tree. I am aware that the melancholy days have come, but he will be needed next summer, just the same. You know there's nothing more dangerous than falling out of a hammock, it's likely to produce concussion of the spine and a number of other fatal consequences. The hammock was tied between two trees, and, of course, it was impossible to tell exactly when the friction against the bark would wear the rope out. The smake used it. go up that tree and it..." bark would wear the rope out. The make used it go up that tree and lie-"
"Could the snake talk?" interrupted the

railway official, irrelevantly.

"Lie along a limb where he could watch "Lie along a limb where he could watch that rope. And the instant he saw any rights of its parting he would throw bituseif around the trunk, knot his tail around the cid of the hammock and hold on till the reople got out. If the slight jar didn't call their attention to what had happened he would let himself slide gently down the tree until the hammock reached the ground."

"That's a good story," the railway man commented, approvingly.
"I don't expect you to believe my unsupported testimony. I can take you out and show you the hammock and the tree."
"I'm afraid we can't do anything for "I'll come down from two thousand do "One dollar?"

"Y-yes; if you insist upon it." The railway man paid him cash and re-"He probably doesn't realize that he has worked hard for that dollar; but he has."

KIND, BUT PORGETFUL. A Woman Tells of a Birthday Present

A half dozen Washington wo talking the other day about the kinds of people they know-which, ty the way, is stance is not explained in this chronicle and one of them called the attention of the others to a prominent woman at whose house three or four of them had incidental ly met the day before.

"That woman," said the narrator, "is a kindly soul, I suppose, and means well enough, but her wealth and her social position take up so much of her time she hasn't much left to think about ordinary things. I fancy there are others just like her, too, though she is the only one I know about, because I lived in the same know about, because I lived in the same town with her betore she came to Washington. Of course, here, I don't see a great deal of her, for she is so much absorbed in her own greatness that I can't get to her before it is time to leave, but I always try to remember the old times and I always send some pretty souvenir or other to her at Christmas. I never the other than the course of the cours thought they impressed her very pro-foundly, but still I sent them, but no this year. She has my name and birth-day on her memorandum book, and by that does not forget me on that day, usually sending some such present as I always send her. Well, my birthday occurred last week, and when I opened my birthday box from her ladyship, would you believe it she had sent me the very thing I sent her for Christmas. She hadn't probably looked at the trinket since the day it was received, if, indeed, she had ever seen it, and had sent me that out of a lot of such inconsidered trifles as she had on hand.

"Possibly," ventured another, "she made a mistake and didn't intend to send you that."

"It wouldn't improve matters much it she didn't," laughed the first one, "for she would be giving my present to somebody else in that case, which would be about as difficult to explain as the other, so I let "Why not send it back to her at Christ-

mas and save that much?" suggested a "And that's just what I shall do; thank you," and the narrator for the first time began to really enjoy the situation.

MRS. JILSON'S AMBITION.

She Wants to See a Cartoon of Mr. Bryan Realistically Presented. "You ought to go about the country more, and then you would not be so sure of the election of McKinley," said Mrs. Jilson, "I see many of the newspaper men from Washington have said that Bryan is going to carry this state and that state, more than enough to elect him, I am sure." "Humph," Jilson grunted in his most dis-

agreeable manner. "Oh, I know," continued Mrs. Jilson airily, "you think you know as much as they do, but you don't. I know Bryan is going to be elected, and I'm glad of it." Jilson said nothing.

"And I just hope he will ride right up to the White House and the Capitol on that iear little donkey he has been riding about the country, just to show everybody that he is not a bit proud, and that his nice little donkey is better than the comic papers have made him out." And Mrs. Jilson defiantly nodded her head at Jilson, who refrained from comment.

Two Points of View. From the Semerville Journal.

City Young Man (watching the skirt dancer's gyrations on the stage)-"Graceful, isn't it, Aunt Emeline?" Aunt Emeline (fresh from wayback)-"Graceful? Disgraceful, I should say."

Terrible Conditions.

From Trath. "Will you accept the challenge?" inquired

he reporter.

"I will not," replied Jawbett, the pugilist "The man is not in my class and he insists on ridiculous terms. Why, he actually pro-poses that we shall wear gags during the progress of hostilities."

She Understood.

From the Chicago Journal. "Madam," shouted the attorney, "do you know what the punishment will be if you do not tell the truth as you have sworn to

do?" "Certainly I do; I will be cross-questioned again.